

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
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R 221331Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8581
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 1853

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: BU, RO, HXH
SUBJECT: ROMANIAN PUBLIC HANDLING OF RECENT IDEOLOGICAL
CONFERENCE

REFS: (A) SOFIA 0501; (B) BUDAPEST 0985; (C) BUCHAREST 1799
(NOTAL); MOSCOW 5337

1. ROMANIAN PRESS REPORT ON BUDAPEST MEETING APPEARED IN
MARCH 2 EDITIONS OF SCINTEIA AND ROMANIA LIBERA. WE FIND
ROMANIAN VERSION OF CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS VERY MUCH IN
ACCORD WITH IMPRESSIONS REPORTED REF B. WE ALSO NOTE RE-
SEMBLANCE OF A NUMBER OF PASSAGES TO STANDARD
STATEMENTS OR GOR POSITIONS. IN ABSENCE OF OFFICIAL TEXT
FOR COMPARISON, WE CAN ONLY CONJECTURE THAT THERE MAY
HAVE BEEN SOME "WORD-SMITHING" CALCULATED TO REFLECT
STANDARD GOR SLANTS ON ASSOCIATION AMONG INDIVIDUAL EQUALS
IN INTERPARTY CONTEXT AND ON COOPERATION WITHOUT REGARD
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TO DIFFERENCES IN SIZE OR SOCIAL SYSTEMS IN INTERNATIONAL
CONTEXT THAT MIGHT AMOUNT TO DISTORTION IN TONE IF NOT
IN SUBSTANCE OF CONFERENCE CONCLUSIONS. ON OTHER HAND,
GOR NORMALLY AVOIDS IN ITS MEDIA USE OF DIRECT, EXPLICIT
DEROGATORIES SUCH AS "REACTIONARY CIRCLES IN NATO
COUNTRIES," WHICH APPEARED IN THIS REPORT.

2. WE HAD NOTED THAT REF B MADE NO REFERENCE TO RECONFIRMATION OF CONCLUSIONS OF 1976 BERLIN CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES, WHILE ROMANIAN REPORT CONCLUDES WITH CLAIM THAT CONFEREES "REAFFIRMED THE DECISIONS OF THEIR PARTIES ON THE CONSISTENT IMPLEMENTATION OF CONCLUSIONS" OF THAT CONFERENCE. IN SIMILAR VEIN, DESCRIPTION OF CONFERENCE ATMOSPHERE CONCLUDES WITH LINE "IN A SPIRIT OF EQUALITY, RECIPROCAL RESPECT AND INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY." AS NOTE D IN REF C, ONE ASPECT OF PROCEEDINGS WITH WHICH GOR DISAGREED WAS DISCLOSED BY A MEMBER OF RCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECTION WHO REMARKED THAT ROMANIANS WERE CONCERNED THAT SOVIETS WERE SET ON INSTITUTIONALIZING SUCH MULTI-LATERAL MEETINGS AND THAT THEY WOULD NOT ATTEND REGULARLY IF THEY COULD AVOID IT. HE ALSO COMMENTED THAT ROMANIANS HAD BALKED AT COMMITTING THEMSELVES TO ORCHESTRATED PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN AGAINST WEST, RESERVING RIGHT AS INDEPENDENT PARTY TO GO ABOUT SUCH THINGS IN THEIR OWN WAY. HE ALSO DENIED, CONTRARY TO REPORT IN REF B, THAT VIETNAM-CAMBODIA CONFLICT WAS A TOPIC OF DISCUSSION. IF IN FACT IT WAS, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A TOPIC ON WHICH ROMANIANS WOULD HAVE WITHHELD CONSENSUS. CONCLUDING STATEMENTS OF ROMANIAN PRESS REPORT WOULD REFLECT THESE VIEWS AND MAY HAVE BEEN SORT OF ADDENDUM FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION REFLECTING A GOR VIEW THAT CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS WERE IMPLICIT

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AFFIRMATION OF BERLIN DECISIONS EVEN IF NOT REDUCED TO WRITING IN CONFERENCE DOCUMENT.

3. WITHOUT ACTUAL TEXT OF CONFERENCE DOCUMENT, WE HAVE NO WAY OF VERIFYING POSSIBLE DISTORTIONS BY OMISSION IN ROMANIAN PRESS REPORT. GOR IS NO MORE RELUCTANT THAN OTHER EE REGIMES TO EXCISE WHAT IT FINDS AWKWARD, INCONVENIENT, OR UNPALATABLE FROM ITS MEDIA COVERAGE. IN ABSENCE OF PUBLIC RELEASE OF AN OFFICIALS CONFERENCE DOCUMENT, IN THIS CASE GOR, PROBABLY HAD LITTLE COMPUSSION ABOUT EXERCISING JOURNALISITC LICENSE IN INTEREST OF ITS DOMESTIC CONSIDERATIONS, EITHER BY EDITING OR REPHRASING. IT WOULD APPEAR (REF D) THAT ROMANIANS DID EDIT REFERENCE TO EITHER CUBA OR GDR IN STATEMENT THAT CONFERENCE "HAD STRESSED, BESIDES, THE NECESSITY IN THE FUTURE OF OBSERVING SIMILARLY THE IMPORTANT DATES OF THE WORKERS AND REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENTS OF THE PEOPLE OF SOCIALIST COUNTRIES."

4. WE HAVE RECEIVED NO REPORTS OF NATURE MENTIONED IN REFS A AND D FROM OUR CONTACTS AMONG EE DIPLOMATS HERE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Concepts: COMMUNISM, NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MEETING REPORTS
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